

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 34

(By Delegates Lawrence, Doyle, Azinger, Barill, Cann, Ennis,
Ferns, Ferro, Hall, Hatfield, Manchin, Martin, Morgan, Moye,
Paxton, Perry, R. Phillips, D. Poling, Rodighiero, Shaver, Skaff,
Smith, Staggers, Sumner and Williams)

Requesting the Legislature to proclaim that Groundhog Day, February
2, 2011, be celebrated as the first anniversary of the Eastern
Panhandle Trailblazers and the birthday of the Eastern
Panhandle Recreation Trail.

WHEREAS, The activities of walking, running and bicycling have
profound and positive impacts on personal and social health,
mobility, economic development, recreation and tourism for people
of all ages, skill levels and economic circumstances; and

WHEREAS, A variety of convenient, safe and attractive trails is
required to support walking, running and bicycling activities; and

WHEREAS, The variety of such trails to, from, within and across
Jefferson, Berkeley and Morgan Counties is currently quite limited;
and

WHEREAS, All citizens and governments within Jefferson,
Berkeley and Morgan Counties, plus numerous other constituents and

1 organizations within and beyond these borders, share an interest in
2 improving walking, running and bicycling opportunities in this
3 region; and

4 WHEREAS, West Virginia's Region 9 Planning and Development
5 Council assisted in creating the Eastern Panhandle Trailblazers to
6 facilitate trail development to, from, within and across Jefferson,
7 Berkeley and Morgan Counties in order to improve walking, running
8 and bicycling opportunities in this region; and

9 WHEREAS, The Eastern Panhandle Trailblazers has embraced the
10 Eastern Panhandle Recreational Trail as its signature project.
11 This trail anticipates a safe, attractive, uninterrupted pathway
12 for walking, running and bicycling from Harpers Ferry, West
13 Virginia, to Berkeley Springs, West Virginia, via Ranson,
14 Martinsburg and Hedgesville, utilizing trails already constructed
15 or planned along WV Route 9, the Raleigh Street Extension and Edwin
16 Miller Boulevard with connecting spurs to the Potomac and
17 Shenandoah Rivers and from Martinsburg to Shepherdstown; and

18 WHEREAS, This Eastern Panhandle Recreational Trail addresses
19 the needs previously described, provides critical access to and
20 from such nearby assets as the Appalachian Trail, the Tuscarora
21 Trail, the Western Maryland Rail Trail, the C&O Canal Towpath, Fort
22 Frederick, Harpers Ferry National Park, Antietam National
23 Battlefield and the Potomac Heritage Trail, and provides the
24 necessary backbone for local trail networks throughout Jefferson,

1 Berkeley and Morgan Counties; and

2 WHEREAS, The Eastern Panhandle Trailblazers was formally
3 organized on February 2, 2010; and

4 WHEREAS, The admirable efforts, accomplishments, goals and
5 aspirations of the Eastern Panhandle Trailblazers should not go
6 unnoticed and should affirmatively be celebrated; therefore, be it

7 *Resolved by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

8 That Groundhog Day, February 2, 2011, is hereby proclaimed and
9 shall be celebrated as the first anniversary of the Eastern
10 Panhandle Trailblazers and the birthday of the Eastern Panhandle
11 Recreational Trail.